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SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" As the arrears of sales tax due to this State Government from the traders who are in Agra are very small amounts, are we to take it, Sir, that these arrears of sales tax represent the amount of tax due for the trade carried on within this State even though the persons concerned are living at Agra? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Yes, Sir.

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" இந்த 80 ரூபாயை வசூல் பண்ணுவதற்கு சர்க்கார் எத்தனை ரூபாய் செலவழிக்கவேண்டும் ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" In the process I enumerated, there will not be much of expenditure."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" May I know whether there has been any suggestion that sales tax on inter-State trade be collected by the Central Government and be distributed to the States concerned? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Probably the hon. Member refers only to the idea expressed by the Taxation Enquiry Commission."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" May I know whether large arrears of sales tax are due to this State Government from traders living in other States like Bombay, West Bengal, and whether the Government are trying to come to an agreement with the different State Governments in the matter of collection of taxes due to each State from other States? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" That is a different question. The main question relates to arrears of sales tax due from traders in Agra."

* 1688 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" This question will be taken up to-morrow."

Community Platforms, Coimbatore district

* 1689 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount allotted for the construction of Community Platforms in the Coimbatore district for the year 1953–54; and

(*b*) the number of such platforms constructed so far?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) A sum of Rs. 16,500 was allotted to the Coimbatore district for the construction of platforms during 1953–54.

" (*b*) Twenty-three platforms have been constructed so far."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் அந்தத் தொகை பூராவையும் என் செலவு செய்யவில்லை ? அதற்குக் காரணம் என்னவென்று சொல்வார்களா ? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" கிராமவாசிகள் தங்களுடைய பங்கையும் செலுத்தவேண்டும். அவர்களுடைய ஒத்துழைப்புடன்தான் இந்தத் திட்டங்கள் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. 28 கிராமங்களை எடுத்துக் கொண்டோம். 23 கிராமங்களில் வேலை பூர்த்தியாகிவிட்டது. இன்னும் 5 கிராமங்களைப் பொறுத்த வரையில் தான் பில் இன்னும் கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" On a point of order, Sir, கனம் ராமசாமி படையாச்சி அவர்கள் டிரஷரி பெஞ்சியில் உட்காராமல் பின் பெஞ்சியில் மறைந்துகொண்டு ஏன் உட்கார்ந்திருக்கிறார்கள் ? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" கேள்வி நேரத்தில் மாத்திரம்தான் நான் அப்படி மறைந்து கொண்டு உட்கார்ந்திருப்பேன். அது முடிந்தவுடன் டிரஷரி பெஞ்சுக்கு வந்துவிடுவேன்." (சிரிப்பு.)

Exemption of dried fish from sales tax

* 1690 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation in 1955 requesting exemption of dried fish from sales tax; and

(*b*) whether any action has been taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The Government see no grounds for exempting sales of dry fish from sales tax."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Since dried fish dealers are also petty merchants and dried fish may also be classed as ' perishable articles ', will the Government consider the question of giving exemption to dried fish from sales tax? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" I am afraid the hon. Member has no personal knowledge of dried fish. Dried fish is a dehydrated thing and it is not perishable. Fresh fish is already exempted from sales tax."

SRI O. KORAN :—" In Malabar district, there are two varieties of dried fish. One variety is easily perishable. So, will the Government consider the question of giving exemption to this variety of dried fish which is easily perishable? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" That is a point worth pursuing, and I will try to pursue it."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" Of all foodstuffs, dried fish is the cheapest and is consumed most by the lower class people. In view of that, will the Government see that sales tax is not levied on dried fish? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" The Government have been exempting certain articles from sales tax every year. This year the quota has been exhausted. "(Laughter.)